26

22

23

24

25

26

The Harrison Family Trust 7/27/99 filed Proof of Claim No. 10725-2005 against USA Commercial Mortgage Company in the amount of \$25,281.25. The USACM Liquidating Trust (the "USACM Trust") hereby objects to the Harrison Trust claim to the extent that such claim is based on an investment in the USA Capital First Trust Deed Fund, LLC ("FTDF"). Although the Harrison Trust has attached the form Exhibit "A" for a claim asserted against USACM, the Harrison Trust has also attached a statement from the FTDF showing an investment of \$25,000 in the FTDF. Accordingly, to the extent the Harrison Trust claim was incorrectly filed in the USA Commercial Mortgage Company ("USACM") case, the USACM Trust respectfully requests that this claim be disallowed as a claim against USACM. To the extent the Harrison Trust seeks to assert a claim against USACM unrelated to its FTDF investment, the USACM Trust reserves its rights to file further objections to such claim at a later date. Any claim asserted by the Harrison Trust against USACM solely on account of its investment in FTDF is derivative of FTDF's claims against USACM. Under a settlement approved by the Court on June 12, 2007, all such FTDF claims were settled, with FTDF holding a \$7.0 million allowed general unsecured claim and beneficial interest in the USACM Liquidating Trust. The equity interest holders in FTDF will share in any recovery on account of that claim.

The Official Committee of Equity Security Holders of FTDF ("FTDF Committee") further objects to allowance of the Harrison Trust's claim as a claim against the FTDF estate.

Bankruptcy Code section 502 authorizes a party in interest to object to claims. <u>See</u> 11 U.S.C. § 502(a). Upon such objection, this Court, "after notice and a hearing, shall determine the amount of such claim in lawful currency of the United States as of the date of the filing of the petition" 11 U.S.C. § 502(b). Although a proper proof of claim is presumed valid under Bankruptcy Rule 3001(f), once an objection controverts the presumption, the creditor has the ultimate burden of persuasion as to the validity and

amount of the claim. <u>Ashford v. Consolidated Pioneer Mortg.</u> (In re Consoldiated Pioneer Mortg.), 178 B.R. 222, 226 (9th Cir. B.A.P. 1995), <u>aff'd</u>, 91 F.3d 151 (9th Cir. 1996) (quoting <u>In re Allegheny International, Inc.</u>, 954 F.2d 167, 173-74 (3d Cir. 1992)).

The FTDF Committee has analyzed the Harrison Trust claim and has determined that it has been incorrectly designated as a "proof of claim." Pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 502, a "creditor . . . may file a proof of claim." An equity security interest holder, however, must file a proof of interest. See 11 U.S.C. § 501(a). Bankruptcy Code section 101(16) defines "equity security" to include a "share in a corporation, whether or not transferable or denominated 'stock', or *similar security*" or a "warrant or right . . . to purchase, sell, or subscribe to a share, security, or interest" of a share in a corporation. 11 U.S.C. § 101(16) (emphasis added). See also Nev. Rev. Stat. §86.521 (upon dissolution of a limited liability company, a limited liability company must pay liabilities to creditors before paying liabilities in respect of profits and/or capital to members of the limited liability company).

To the extent the Harrison Trust is asserting a claim against FTDF, such claim appears to be based on its membership in the FTDF and not based on any debt the claimants hold against the FTDF. For example, annexed to the Harrison Trust claim is an account statement that list the number of shares the Harrison Trust holds in the FTDF, the price of such shares, and the FTDF Member's account identification number. Membership interests and/or shares in the FTDF clearly fall within the definition of "equity security" under Bankruptcy Code section 101(16). Thus, the holders of the equity interests are equity security interest holders of the FTDF and do not hold unsecured claims against the FTDF estate.

This objection does not seek to prejudice the rights of the Harrison Trust as an FTDF member to recover from the FTDF estate on account of its membership interest of \$25,000, which exact amount is reflected in the FTDF statement attached by the Harrison

LAWYERS

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

Trust to the Harrison Trust claim. The Harrison Trust shall retain its interest in FTDF in the amount of \$25,000 as reflected in the books and records of FTDF. Indeed, the Harrison Trust has received distributions based on this FTDF membership interest to date, with no objection.

Accordingly, the USACM Trust and the FTDF Committee seek entry of an order that will disallow the Harrison Trust claim against USACM to the extent it based on an FTDF investment, disallow any proposed allowance of the Harrison Trust claim in the FTDF case, and appropriately allow the Harrison Trust to retain its equity interest in the FTDF in the amount of \$25,000 as reflected in the books and records of FTDF as of the bankruptcy petition filing date.

This objection is made pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 502, Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3007, and Local Rule of Bankruptcy Practice 3007.

Dated: August 8, 2007

/s/ Eve H. Karasik FŘANK A. MEROLA (CA State Bar No. 136934), EVE H. KARASIK (CA State Bar

No. 155356), and CHRISTINE M. PAJAK (CA State Bar No. 217173), Members of

STUTMAN, TREISTER & GLATT, P.C. 1901 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90067 Telephone: (310) 228-5600

and

By: /s/ Rob Charles (#006593) SUSAN M. FREEMAN

ROB CHARLES

LEWIS AND ROCA LLP

3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600

Las Vegas, NV 89169-0961 Facsimile (702) 949-8321

Telephone (702) 949-8320

COUNSEL FOR USACM Liquidating

Trust

224238.1

	LEGGS 06-10725-gwz Doc 4434 Entered 08/08/07 15:01:29 Page 5 of 5 $\underbrace{ROCA_{LLP}AND}_{LAWYERS}$
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	CANDACE C. CARLYON Shea & Carlyon, Ltd. 701 Bridger, Suite 850 Las Vegas, NV 89101 Telephone: (702) 471-7432 COUNSEL FOR THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF EQUITY SECURITY HOLDERS OF USA CAPITAL FIRST TRUST DEED FUND, LLC
8 9 10	Copy of the foregoing Mailed this 8th day of August, 2007 to:
11121314	The Harrison Family Trust 7/27/99 Thomas B. and Marguerite F. Harrison, TTE Thomas B. and Marguerite F. Harrison 930 Dorcey Drive Incline Village, NV 89451
1415	By /s/ Renee L. Creswell
1617	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
2324	
25	
26	

224238.1